



NEWS RELEASE

Joseph E. Kernan, Governor
Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

For Immediate Release: Oct. 12, 2004
Media Contact: Jeff Harris, 317/ 232-3396
Angie Nussmeyer, 317/ 233-5050

Kernan awards training grant to assist workers at Northeastern Indiana Aluminum Manufacturers

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Gov. Kernan announced today that the Northeast Indiana Aluminum Manufacturers Training Coalition has been awarded a \$120,277 grant to upgrade the skill levels of 58 Huntington County area employees.

Offered by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the Incumbent Worker Training grant will benefit workers at **Hayes-Lemmerz International Inc.**, **General Aluminum Manufacturing** and **Transwheel Corp.** Formed by Ivy Tech State College, the Northeast Indiana Aluminum Manufacturers Training Coalition combines the training needs of the three companies. Together, the firms have contributed \$317,399 toward the effort.

“As Indiana looks to the future and continues to attract businesses needing advanced manufacturing techniques, workforce training becomes even more critical,” Kernan said. “These three companies recognize the need for lifelong learning for their employees and we are proud of these companies, this partnership with Ivy Tech and are glad to support the aluminum manufacturing industry and its workers in Northeast Indiana.”

Participants will be trained in one of four areas: production, maintenance mechanic, quality control or Microsoft office suite. After successfully completing five classes in at least three different skills, workers will receive a career development certificate from Ivy Tech State College. The credit earned through these classes can later be applied to a technical certificate or an associate of applied degrees in industrial technology and Microsoft certification.

“The opportunity to earn advanced credentials beyond their initial certification encourages these workers to take part in lifelong learning,” added the governor.

Hayes-Lemmerz International, a leading global supplier of wheels and other products for automobiles and light trucks, is sending up to 21 maintenance and production workers through the training program. General Aluminum Manufacturing produces aluminum castings for the trucking and agricultural industries and eight employees will be participating in this training program. Providing new and remanufactured aluminum, steel and chrome wheel replacement as well as wheel cover remanufacturing services to the automotive-related market, 29 workers from Transwheel Corp. will be attending training.

All Indiana businesses are eligible to apply for Incumbent Worker Training grants. The grants are designed to create a world-class workforce in Indiana through continuous improvement to the skill levels of Hoosier workers.

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Through its various programs and initiatives, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, call 1-800-465-416 or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.

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